FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 SEPTEMBER 1985

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres referred to "progress" in relations with Jordan during a Jerusalem television interview, asserting that King Husayn is now willing to enter negotiations without preconditions. Peres met earlier with a U.S. Jewish Congress delegation that arrived in Jerusalem after recent visits to Cairo and Amman, according to Jerusalem radio, which broadcast a delegation member's statement that both President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn had displayed a genuine desire to promote the peace process. Husayn indicated to the delegation that Jordan will negotiate with Israel without the PLO if the latter fails to recognize Israel after talks between the United States and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the radio added. Israeli minister Moshe Arens told the U.S. delegation that by its decision not to hold a preliminary meeting with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the United States has accepted Israel's position on this issue, Jerusalem radio reported.

As for Israel's concern about Syria, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stressed in remarks broadcast by the radio that recent Israeli "warnings" to Syria are the result of the latter's "preparations" and statements. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in remarks broadcast by the radio, said his recent comments about Syrian military intentions should not be regarded as a warning but rather as an explanation of Israel's position in order to prevent "mistakes." There has been no change in the Syrian deployment on the Golan Heights that could suggest offensive intentions, according to senior IDF sources cited by Jerusalem television.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied Iranian claims of shooting down an Iraqi plane over Khark Island 11 September. Three Iranian divisions were destroyed during Iran's "miserable offensives" in the northern sector, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by the agency. Iranians could not control "even one inch" of territory despite losing thousands of troops in the battle, the spokesman said.

Iran has occasionally intercepted and searched PRC cargo ships since the war broke out, but yesterday's seizure was the first time a PRC ship was forced to an Iranian port, according to a Chinese shipping official in remarks to XINHUA. Condemning Iran's "blatant agression" outside its territorial waters, a Baghdad *AL-THAWRAH article cited by Voice of the Masses radio* saidIran deserves collective sanctions to compel it to abandon these "crimes."

Iran

Kuwaiti authorities are refusing to fly home the Kuwaiti passenger plane hijacked to Tehran last winter for "reasons yet unknown," an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman said in remarks reported by IRNA. Meanwhile, another bomb exploded in Tehran 12 September, injuring two people, according to IRNA.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Talks began in Amman between Jordan's King Husayn and a committee charged with clearing the Arab atmosphere, Amman radio announced. Earlier, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received the committee comprising Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in Damascus, according to Damascus radio.

Egyptian, Jordanian Press on Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi may resort to a "military adventure" against his neighbors to cover up the deteriorating internal situation in Libya following the expulsion of Tunisian and Egyptian workers, the Egyptian paper *AL-AHRAM* contended. Observers quoted by the paper believe the only reason why Al-Qadhdhafi has not yet taken military action is the general unrest in the Libyan Armed Forces and the officers' unwillingness to attack any Arab country.

In another development, the Jordanian paper *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* reported that the head of Libyan intelligence and two of his aides asked the FRG for political asylum following their arrival in Bonn a few days ago.

Lebanon

Commenting on the release of the last batch of 'Atlit detainees, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri stressed the need to continue the "jihad" against Israel and the army of southern Lebanon until the border strip and the Jazzin area are "liberated," Beirut radio reported. Birri claimed the United States breached its "pledge" to secure the freedom of the detainees because of "procrastination" that delayed their release and because Israel is still holding three Lebanese detainees.

Voice of Lebanon radio reported further Amal-Palestinian clashes around Burj al-Barajinah while Beirut radio said renewed artillery exchanges across the east-west contact lines caused casualties.

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Counterrevolutionary Bands Crushed, Weapons Seized

LD111645 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Shattering blows were dealt to the half-dead body of the enemies of the homeland, people, and revolution in the course of successful operations by the security forces at Khost major-district. As a result of these operations, the murderous band of Jalaluddin which was equipped with strong engineering establishments, trenches, DShK's and recoilless guns was crushed during an attack mounted by the armed forces.

According to a report, a large quantity of weapons and assorted equipment, including 6,000 assorted mines, 500,000 assorted heavy and light weapons, and ammunition, and foodstuffs, were seized by the security forces.

Quoting a source from the country's security forces, a BIA correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations which were carried out in Herat Province, a number of counter-revolutionary elements belonging to the criminal band of Jamiyat were crushed and 12 were captured along with their weapons. A number were wounded and 60 assorted weapons were seized from them.

According to another report, during an operation that was mounted in villages of Parwan Province a number of counterrevolutionary elements belonging to the Jamiyat band were captured and a quantity of assorted weapons were seized from them.

SPA: Afghan Mujahidin Continue Siege of Khowst

GF111546 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1455 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] London, 11 Sep (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin are continuing their siege of the Afghani and invading Soviet forces in Khowst region in Paktia Province. It is worth noting that the Afghan mujahidin are currently laying siege around over 3,000 troops of theKarmal regime and 5,000 Soviet experts in the region.

The Afghan Press Agency has reported that Soviet planes launched ferocious air raids to break the siege clamped by the Mujahidin. This resulted in the killing of hundreds of innocent civilians and inflicting damage on houses. The Afghan Press Agency pointed out that the Mujahidin also laid a siege around the camps of Samkani and Jajay after 10,000 Soviet troops withdrew from these two camps.

Briefs

Envoy to GDR — Kabul, Sept 10, BAKHTAR — GDR authorities have agreed to the appointment of an Gen. Baba Jan, alternate member of the PDPA CC, as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DRA in the GDR. His appointment to this position was earlier requested by the DRA from the GDR. Gen Baba Jan is speaking both Russian and Turkey. [Text][*Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0435 GMT 11 Sep 85 LD*]

Bhandari Meets Sri Lankans To Discuss Peace Draft
HK120734 Hong Kong AFP in English 0720 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 12 (AFP) — A three-member Sri Lankan delegation, led by a senior official, has met here with Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari for talks on the island's Tamil problem, official sources said today.

In the meeting last night, the team, headed by Felix Ayesinghe and including two lawyers, sought clarification on some of the points contained in a draft working paper prepared by the two governments here early this month to form the basis for a reopening of the peace talks with the Tamils, the sources added.

It was not immediately known on which points the clarifications were sought.

The delegation was accompanied at the talks by Sri Lankan High Commissioner Barnard Tillakaratne and a High Commission source said the team would stay on in Delhi for a few days.

The paper lays down a procedure for granting more autonomy to the Tamil-dominated northern and eastern districts of Sri Lanka by setting up elected provincial councils.

The draft is being studied by the Sri Lankan Cabinet as well as leaders of the Tamil militant groups based in Madras, South India.

The Indian Government has been trying to persuade Tamil militants to accept the draft and come to Delhi to start a third phase of peace talks with Sri Lankan Government representatives.

Tamil leaders, angered by the deportation of A. Balasingham, spokesman of the militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), to London, have so far not responded to the call.

Stalemate remained after two earlier rounds of talks held in Bhutan between representatives of Colombo and the Tamil groups. A section of the 2.5 million Tamils in Sri Lanka has been waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

Akali Dal Election Manifesto Promises Peace
BK111615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] The Shiromani Akali Dal election manifesto says the party will take all possible measures to restore peace and normalcy in Punjab. It promises to work for setting up of a commission headed by a high court judge to probe all killings and violence in the state. The manifesto, released by the party leader, Mr Balwant Singh, in Chandigarh today, said it will strive for securing pension to the dependents of all those killed during the agitation in the state. Steps will also be taken to rehabilitate in Punjab those who have been uprooted by the November riots. It will also work for release of the youths detained in jails and rehabilitate them by giving suitable employment.

The manifesto describes the Punjab accord as an instrument which aims in providing justice to Punjab and safeguarding the interests of the people in socioeconomic, political, and cultural matters. Describing the accord as a vindication of the Akali stand and its victory, it reiterates the party's commitment to the ideals of secularism, democracy, and socialism. Its record on the promotion of national reconstruction and territorial integrity and unity is second to none.

The manifesto claims that the Anandpur Sahib resolution aims at providing greater autonomy to states and strengthening the unity and the integrity of the country. The party says it stands for total employment to the youth within 10 years, uplift of weaker sections, greater industrialization, diversification of agriculture, remunerative prices to the farmers, revision of the minimum wage for agricultural workers, reduction in the cost of agricultural inputs, a better public distribution system and tax structures.

It also promises that all loans to the poor up to 5,000 rupees with interest will be remitted. Early completion of the Thein dam, setting up of an atomic plant, a new pay commission, a permanent machinery for resolving disputes between the government and its employees, and welfare of exservicemen are among the other promises made in the election manifesto.

The election manifesto of the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] says the Punjab accord has ushered in an atmosphere of peace in the state. However, it alleged that the accord is vague on some points and could have been signed earlier. The manifesto was released in Chandigarh today by the state's BJP secretary, Mr H. Avinashi.

Expressing the faith in the glorious future of Punjab, it urges the people of the state to take a pledge not to allow the repetition of the unfortunate happenings of the last 5 years. It calls for a high-level judicial inquiry into the violence in Punjab, and hopes that the sacrifices of Sant Longowal will help end the era of confrontation and usher in peace and prosperity in the state. The manifesto says the party will launch a sustained struggle against rising prices and corruption. It will work for securing more employment opportunities, and improving power supply in the state. It will strive for early completion of the Thein dam and other projects besides fighting for a good price for farm produce. The manifesto adds that the party will also work for early civic elections.

AFP Report
HK111442 Hong Kong AFP in English 1424 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 11 (AFP) — The moderate faction of the Sikh party Akali Dal today assured Punjab voters in its manifesto that it was committed to a secular, democratic and socialist society, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

The manifesto, released to reporters in Punjab, said that if voted into power in September 25 state polls, the Dal would take all possible measures to restore peace and normalcy and put Punjab back on the rails.

The manifesto described the July peace accord, signed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the slain Akali Dal chief, Harchand Singh Longowal, ending his party's campaign — often violent — for greater political autonomy, as "vindication of the Akali stand and its victory."

Spelling out its policy, the manifesto said the party was committed to the kind of secular, democratic and socialist society envisioned by the community's tenth and last spiritual leader, Guru Gobind Singh.

Meanwhile the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which is contesting 26 of the 117 seats, described the elections as a "friendly match" between the Akali Dal and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party.

The BJP manifesto said the present time was most inappropriate for elections in the state due to a recent spurt of militant violence.

While Congress, the main contender for power in the state, has put up candidates in all the seats, the Akali Dal is contesting 101 seats.

The militant faction of the Akali Dal is boycotting the poll, which it says was to legitimise the Punjab accord.

Mr Longowal was assassinated last month by suspected Sikh militants who opposed the accord as a "sell-out."

The state's 10,722,527 voters are also simultaneously to elect 13 deputies from the state to the federal parliament.

24-Hour Industrial Strike Begins in West Bengal

BK120322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] In West Bengal, the 24-hour industrial strike began this morning. The strike has been called by eight leftist central trade unions in support of a 13-point charter of demands. They include nationalization of jute industry, taking over of sick industries, and reopening of locked-out industrial units in the state.

Our Calcutta correspondent, after touring parts of the city this morning, reports that vehicular traffic, barring a few private cars, is completely off the road. Most of the shops and markets in the city are closed. Several long-distance trains reached Howrah and Sealdah before 0600. Local trains which left the stations before 0600 have either reached their destinations or been terminated midway. Before the start of the strike, trains services in the Eastern Railways were obstructed at various places. One stone throwing incident has been reported from a place between Nauhati and Bandel. According to the latest reports, the Howrah-bound Kalka Mail has been terminated at Dhanbad. Airlines sources informed that their morning services have been rescheduled and most of the morning flights took off from Calcutta before 0600. At least two Delhi-bound air services have been canceled and some others terminated midway.

As already reported, Bengal provincial national trade union is not participating in the strike, nor either opposing it. According to official sources, the state government has taken all precautionary measures to ensure law and order. The state legislature — which is in session these days — government offices, and educational insitutions have been kept outside the purview of the strike.

Strike Paralizing in Calcutta

BK120908 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Except] Normal life in Calcutta and its surrounding areas has been paralized following an 24-hour industrial strike in West Bengal which began this morning. According to official sources, production in three industrial belts -- Greater Calcutta Howrah, Durgapur-Asansol, and Haldia -- have been affected. Barring some sporadic incidents of squatting on railway lines and stone throwing before the commencement of the strike, the situation is reported to be peaceful. AIR [All India Radio] Calcutta correspondent F. Bat Mukherjee, who went round various parts of the city, reports that most shops and markets in the city are closed. Educational institutions, though out of the purview of the strike, are also closed. Vehicular traffic, barring a few private cars and rickshas,is off the road. The two railway stations, Howrah and Sealdah, and Calcutta Airport wore a deserted look.

Police Arrest 10 Top MRD Officials in Lahore

NC111725 Paris AFP in English 1715 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 11 (AFP) — Police arrested 10 top officials and 100 activists of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy [MRD], the outlawed Pakistani opposition coalition, when they tried to meet in the eastern city of Lahore today, reports from the area said.

The meeting, which had been banned by the authorities, was called by the 11-party MRD in its stronghold of Lahore to mark the 37th anniversary of the death of Quaid-e Azam, one of the founders of Pakistan in 1947.

It was originally scheduled as an open air meeting, but police set up barricades in the streets around the site, the reports said.

The 10 organisers from the MRD'S national and regional leadership then decided to hold the meeting in a house used by one of the coalition parties and this drew a 100-strong crowd, they said.

The house was rapidly surrounded by police, who detained the 10 leaders and then moved into the building to arrest the other activists.

The arrests were made under a public-order decree authorising detention without trial for up to 90 days, sources said, adding that it was possible they might be released overnight or in the next few days.

The chiefly secular MRD, which is protesting the rule of General Mohammad Ziaul Hag, held a successful public meeting in Lahore last August 14. It was the movement's first authorised gathering in eight years.

Delhi Report

BK120321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] In Pakistan, over 100 persons belonging to the oppositon Movement for Restoration of Democracy have been arrested while trying to hold a rally in Lahore. They met inside a house when police entered and stopped the proceedings. The rally was to mark the death anniversary of Muhammad Quaid-e Azam.

Radio Reports Nonaligned Positicn on Afghanistan

BK091444 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] The nonaligned foreign ministers' conference, which has ended in the Angolan capital, Luanda, has called for a political solution of the Afghanistan problem on the basis of withdrawal of foreign forces from that country and returning of Afghan refugees to their homes in honor and safety. This was stated by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, in an interview with Radio Pakistan's representative on his return to Islamabad this morning after attending the conference.

BANGLADESH

Delhi: Dhaka Denies Knowledge of Illegals in Assam

BK110945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] The Bangladesh Government has said that it has no information about the illegal presence of any of their nationals in Assam. An official spokesman made this comment in Dhaka yesterday.

NEPAL

Rampant Illegal Citizenship by Indians Reported

HK030528 Hong Kong AFP in English 0415 GMT 3 Sep 85

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept 3 (AFP) — Nepalese legislators are complaining of widespread administrative corruption, with Indian immigrants allegedly bribing officials for citizenship.

More than 60 of the 140 National Panchayat (parliament) members last week warned that a "grave and explosive" situation would develop in the country if the government did not take appropriate steps immediately to curb the problem.

Nepal's population is growing rapidly, with a 2.6 per cent average increase recorded in the past two years, according to official figures, and a total population of 16.5 million in July.

An average 100,000 Indians cross the border from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh states each year in search of jobs in Nepal, and many of them seek a short cut to obtaining Nepalese citizenship by bribing officials, the panchayat members said.

Some members said that district officials had sold citizenship certificates for 200 rupees (10 U.S. dollars), amended them for 500 rupees (26 dollars) and taken five rupees (26 cents) to register an application for citizenship.

The legislators said Indians were bribing officials for the certificates while genuine Nepalese unable to offer illegal bribes were having difficulty obtaining citizenship papers.

Citizenship certificates are needed to open bank accounts and obtain bank loans, to go abroad to study, and to obtain jobs with the civil service, the police or the army.

Some Panchayat members told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE thatIndian citizens were crossing into Nepal, obtaining Nepalese citizenship, and then applying for Indian government scholarships in India reserved for Nepalese citizens.

Influential Panchayat members, including former Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Bhadra Sharma, urged the government to take steps to halt the alleged corruption, and to cancel the citizenship of all people found to have acquired citizenship by bribery.

They said the government of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand should set up special teams to distribute citizenship certificates to genuine Nepalese, on the recommendation of their village and district panchayat chairman and pradhan panch (headman).

Several Panchayat members also urged the government to review its policy for granting licenses for ready-made clothing factories, and industry which has attracted increasing numbers of India immigrants to the country.

Thousands of Indians had crossed the border to work in the clothing industry, and this could cause grave political problems in the future, some Panchayat members said.

Senior Panchayat members, including former Finance Minister Yadav Prasad Pant, a strong critic of the Chand government's financial policy, said the government's current policies on the clothing industry would not help to industrialise the country.

Others accused the government of spending foreign exchange reserves to import materials to make clothing, so that even though more than 500 million rupees' (26 million dollars) worth of garments were exported in fiscal 1984-5, the country was not gaining the benefit of these foreign exchange earnings.

SRI LANKA

Delhi Radio Reports Curfew in Eastern Province

BK111605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, authorities today reimposed curfew in the town in the eastern province to check clashes between Tamils and Muslims. Curfew was first imposed yesterday when when violence broke out between the two minority communities in the town (Ariyepattuv). Meanwhile, Tamils homes were set ablaze in Trincomalee last night. The TULF blamed Sinhalese homeguards and civilians for the arson.

Bomb Damages Cars at Tehran City Park
LD110828 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — Three people were wounded as a mild explosion occured in front of Park-e Shahr (the city park), in central Tehran, at 09:40 hours local time Wednesday (06:10 hours GMT). The bomb was installed at the rear of a car 60 pc [percent] of which was destroyed. Another parked car was also damaged by 40 percent.

Two Injured in 'Minor' Tehran Explosion
LD120809 Tehran IRNA in English 0804 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12 IRNA — Two people were slightly injured when a minor explosion took place in Azadi Street, West Tehran, at 08:20 local time (04:50 GMT) Thursday. The bomb had been planted by lackey elements under a car parked beside the Azadi branch of the National Bank. The car was destroyed and window panes of the bank and a number of nearby houses were shattered. The two injured, one of whom a bank employee, received outpatient treatment.

Kuwait Refuses To Fly Hijacked Plane Home
LD111646 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — A Foreign Ministry spokesman here Wednesday said Kuwait authorities are refusing to fly home a once hijacked Kuwaiti passenger plane *Al-Kazimah* for "some reasons yet unknown". *Al-Kazimah* was hijacked to Tehran last winter. Kuwaiti press recently claimed Iran has been refusing to hand over the plane to Kuwait. The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly told Kuwaiti authorities that the plane was Kuwaiti property.

Imams Call for Release of Pakistani Muslims
LD111729 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] In response to the detention of a number of Islamic figures in Pakistan, the Global Congress of Friday Prayers' Imams and congregational prayer leaders issued a statement. The statement, while referring to conspiracies of global arrogance, and the agents of the United States and international Zionism in creating discord and division among followers of various Islamic sects, says: Recently, these agents turned a march by a group of Muslims demanding their justified rights in Quetta city, Pakistan, into a tragic bloody scene. About 50 people engaged in the ensuing clash lost their lives, while several honorable ulema were arrested by the city's police and subjected to psychological and physical torture.

The Bureau of the Global Congress of Friday Imams and leaders of congregational prayers condemn this act by the agents of global arrogance in creating this tragic incident, and call upon all Friday imams, prayer leaders, and the ulema of Islam to inform all Muslims of these facts and to use the appropriate means to ask the Pakistani Government to release the detained personalities.

President Tours Helicopter Assembly Plant
LD101641 Tehran IRNA in English 1636 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA — President Khamene'i announced here Tuesday that Iran is prepared to make available its technical expertise in helicopter repair work and maintenance to the states in the region.

The president made the statement while on a tour of Iran's helicopter assembly industries; he added that the company since the victory of the Islamic revolution has taken great strides to attain self-sufficiency.

"These steps have proven very effective in maintaining the security of the Persian Gulf region," the president continued, noting that the Islamic Republic attaches great importance to the independence of the Persian Gulf as a whole and for the region particularly.

The president said "the Persian Gulf states are dissatisfied with the presence of the U.S. and other foreign powers in the region. The Islamic Republic, therefore, is ready to help the neighboring countries with helicopter repair and maintenance".

On the Iraqi imposed war, President Khamene'i said that despite the wishes of the global arrogance and its propaganda, Iran's insistence on continuing its defence against the aggressor (Iraq) has been well accepted in the world.

He said Iraq's long-time supporters have understood that it is no use maintaining their assistance to the Iraqi regime any more, and that the Iranian people are steadily growing braver in their fighting with the Iraqi aggressors.

Musavi Chairs 11 Sep Cabinet Meeting
LD111704 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 11, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi chaired Wednesday's cabinet meeting here in which domestic and regional political developments were discussed.

Attending the session were Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Iraj Fazel the minister of culture and higher education who briefed the ministers on their recent foreign visits. Also reviewed in the meeting was Iran's position in the next session of OPEC.

Departments To Economize
LD111805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] The cabinet met this morning. At this meeting in accordance with the statements of the imam of the ummah [Ayatollah Khomeyni] about economizing in expenditures of Muslim public funds and the means to do so, it was decided to inform all state departments to practice frugality in using stationery, printing of

publications, use of water, electricity, telephones, and fuel; and in issuing tours of duty at home and abroad; holding unnecessary seminars; and in cases of superfluous formalities, over-staffing and excessive bureaucracy.

Velayati Cables DPRK Counterpart on National Day

LD101746 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati cabled a message to the foreign ministers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Kim Yong-nam, on the occasion of his country's national day Monday.

Dr Velayati in his message also expressed hope that the friendly relations between Iran and the DPRK in the framework of their anti-imperialist struggle would be further expanded.

Majlis Speaker Confers With Envoy to PRC

LD111005 Tehran IRNA in English 0955 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — Iran's Ambassador to China 'Ali Khorram Tuesday reported to Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani latest developments in mutual relations between Iran and China following Rafsanjani's recent visit to that country.

Stressing continuation of previous trend in relations between the two countries, Rafsanjani gave guidelines for the further expansion of bilateral relations. The Majlis speaker also conveyed a message for the Chinese prime minister, Zhao Ziyang.

Communications Protocol Signed With Bulgaria

LD111008 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — A protocol was concluded between Iran and Bulgaria Tuesday for the expansion of mutual cooperation in the fields of post, telephone, telex and stamp.

The protocol was signed by Iran's minister of PTT (Post, Telephone and Telegraph), Morteza Nabavi and the visiting Bulgarian Minister of Communications, Pando Vanchev.

According to the protocol, the two sides agreed on the establishment of an international transit connection through Bulgaria to Iran and vice-versa.

It also stressed importance of international seminars, stamp exhibitions as well as establishment of mechnised post centres, communication training courses and cooperation in research and production fields.

Further Details

LD111931 Tehran IRNA in English 1807 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — Iran and Bulgaria have signed a letter of understanding for cooperation in the fields of communications and post, Bulgarian Minister of Communications Pando Vanchev as head of Bulgarian delegation here, told reporters at the airport prior to his departure Wednesday. He also expressed satisfaction with his talks with Iranian officials and hoped for continuation of cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian delegation after a four-day stay here was seen off by Iran's minister of post, telegraph and telephone, Morteza Nabavi at Tehran Mehrabad Airport Wednesday.

Nabavi referred to the agreement between the two countries, saying that telex and telephone connections between the two countries would be expanded. The agreement also would boost international transit links via Bulgaria and vice versa, he added.

The necessity for mutual cooperation on holding international seminars and stamps exhibitions was emphasized in the agreement, Nabavi said.

He added that Iran and Bulgaria are also to cooperate in the area of research and that Bulgaria will make available its experience in manufacturing communication instruments to Iran.

According to a trade agreement, the volume of trade between the two countries is to reach 500 million dlrs in the current year with a share of 250 million dlrs for each.

Further Reportage on Visit of Finnish Trade Minister

Departure Statement

GF110718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Our correspondent has filed the following report on the conclusion of the visit to Iran of the Finnish foreign trade minister: The Finnish minister of foreign trade, who led a trade mission to our country, left Tehran this morning after signing a memorandum of understanding. He was seen off at the airport by Mr Ja'fari, minister of commerce, and by the ambassadors of the two countries.

The Finnish minister of foreign trade said upon his departure from Tehran: I have participated in useful talks with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the expansion of bilateral commerce. I hope that these talks will be further expanded, especially in the field of petrochemicals and mines.

Mr Ja'fari, minister of commerce, speaking on the results of the talks with the Finnish delegation and its effects on the expansion of bilateral relations said: The visit of the Finnish minister of trade and the accompanying delegation was beneficial, especially as they were able to see at close range the state of affairs in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Concerning trade relations between Finland and the Islamic Republic, he said: Some agreements have been reached in this regard; carpets and dry fruits will be exported to Finland. Some members of the delegation will remain behind to follow up on these agreements.

Commerce Minister on Memo of Understanding

LD111152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Finnish Foreign Trade Minister Jermu Laine, who had come to Iran at the head of a delegation, left Tehran this morning, after having signed a memo of understanding.

In an interview with our correspondent before leaving Tehran, while expressing his satisfaction over this trip, the Finnish trade minister said (announcer read): Considering the numerous grounds that exist for mutual cooperation, we believe that we can expand mutual trade. For instance, we have achieved good results concerning petrochemical and mining industries. He added: We have held important talks with Iranian authorities during our stay in Tehran. We are veyr appreciative for this opportunity.

Commerce Minister Ja'fari described the outcome of the visit by the Finnish delegation in an interview with our correspondent: [Begin recording] [Correspondent] Please tell us about the outcome of the visit by the Finnish foreign trade minister. How effective was this visit in the expansion of mutual relations?
[Ja'fari] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The 3-day visit by the Finnish trade minister — during which he inspected the International Fair and the Finnish National Day which was celebrated at the Finnish stall — led to the signing of a memo of understanding. The memo forcasts the expansion of trade and economic relations between the two countries. We reached basic agreements regarding oil and the purchase of good from Finland. Talks were held about various fields such as forestry, (?industrial goods), mining and the petrochemcial industry. A framework of relations was set in the memo of understanding. God willing, we will follow the matter up in greater detail in future trips and subsequent memos of understanding.

[Correspondent] Were talks held regarding non-oil exports to Finland?
[Ja'fari] Yes. It was agreed for some of our goods such as carpets, dates, dried fruit and so forth to be exported to Finland. This was mentioned in the memo of understanding. [End recording]

It should be pointed out that non-oil trade between the two countries increased from $23 to 92 million from 1972-73 to 1983-84. Last year, trade between Iran and Finland reached $300 million.

Deputy Minister, GDR Envoy Speak at Trade Fair

LD111734 Tehran IRNA in English 1656 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — The ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to Tehran, Guenther Fritsch, in a ceremony held at 11th Tehran International Trade Fair Wednesday on the occasion of GDR national day announced that his country has been the biggest displayer of industrial goods at this fair.

He also said that GDR is a purchaser of oil and non-oil goods from Iran, noting that its imports from Iran during the current year registered a "proper growth" over 1984. GDR's deputy minister of machinery, Mr Scholwin was also present at the ceremony.

Iran's economic and commercial deputy minister of industries, Mr Jamshidi welcomed the guests and said that the Islamic Republic of Iran wants to increase its non-oil exports to other countries in an effort to balance trade with them.

He continued that the volume of trade between Iran and GDR topped 350 million dlrs in 1984 while the figure was about 20 million dlrs in 1977. The combined value of bilateral trade of the two countries is expected to reach 700 million dlrs, Jamashidi concluded.

Namazi Leads Economic Delegation to Syria

LD111735 Tehran IRNA in English 1707 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — Iran's Finance Minister Hoseyn Namazi, left here for Syria at the head of an economic delegation Wednesday. He is scheduled to hold talks with Syrian officials on joint economic matters. Also, Namazi is scheduled to visit Syria's 32d international trade fair, and hold follow-up talks on a note of understanding signed earlier between the two countries.

UN Anti-Narcotics Commission Session Opens in Tehran

LD111644 Tehran IRNA in English 1609 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — The United Nation's Anti-Drug Commission opened in Tehran Wednesday and Iran called for firm suppression of drug dealers throughout the world. Officials from Turkey, Pakistan, Sweden and the United Nations are attending the regional conference. The Swedish delegates are acting as observers.

In a message to the session, Iran's Minister of the Interior 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri said the international police should battle drug dealers and become increasingly active in the exchange of information on them. He said "courts throughout the world ought to deal firmly with criminals and the corrupt on the earth". Nuri called on Pakistan and Turkey to cooperate with Iran in controlling drug trafficking across their joint borders. He said many dealers flee to neighhouring countries when chased by law enforcement agents. The Iranian Government has extensive anti-drug programs and Iranian law calls for the execution of drug dealers. Poppy farming in Iran was outlawed after the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Tehran Notes 'Decline' in Saudi Economy

GF111748 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 11 Sep 85

[From "The Political Follow-Ups" program]

[Excerpts] There are several reasons behind the decline in the Saudi economy. The following are the main reasons for this decline:

Saudi Arabia lacks a studied economic plan;

The unreasonable and unlimited Saudi foreign aid policy, as Saudi Arabia spends about $12 billion annually to finance the aggressive war against the Islamic Republic. Since the beginning of the aggression, Saudi Arabia has pledged to grant Iraq monthly aid of about 1 billion dollars to continue the aggression. [figures as published] After 5 years of continuous aid, Saudi Arabia is convinced that its ally will not achieve victory. For this reasons, observers believe that Saudi aid to Iraq was reduced after the economic deterioration in Saudi Arabia;

The economic recession of the international oil market has greatly affected the Saudi economy. Saudi oil production dropped from 9 million barrels per day to 2.2 million barrels per day. Such a huge drop in production is capable of paralyzing the economy;

The Saudi political and economic association with the United States jeopardized the interests of the Muslim people in Al-Hijaz country and resulted in losses and reduction of their resources. The U.S. Administration exploited the resources of the Muslims in the Arabian Peninsula for its own purposes. The ignorant response of the pillars of the regime to that colonialist will has greatly contributed in creating this decline;

Inundating Saudi Arabia with arms deals which the Saudi Armed Forces cannot accommodate is a very important factor in the decline of the economy. Resources were squandered in paying for military equipment. Saudi Arabia did not need these arms, but they were purchased because of U.S. prodding on the one hand and its involvement in creating differences and conflicts among the countries of the region on the other hand.

Political analysts believe the Saudi regime will be damaged politically due to the deteriorating economic situation. This crisis might lead to an acute split within the royal family. Some royal family members may express indignation at the irresponsible policy of some of the hidden shaykhs who are dragging the system and the economy of Saudi Arabia to the edge of danger. In addition, the Saudi economic impact on many countries, which are under the influence of the so-called diplomacy of the Saudi riyal, will be affected by this turbulent crisis, which will negatively reflect Saudi international relations.

Energy Minister Discusses Recent Power Blackouts

LD101240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] At a news conference this morning, Minister of Energy Mr Ghafuri-Fard said that the recent power blackout had been due to difficulties in two sets of boilers at the Neka power station, reducing the network's power output by some 800 mw. He said that the contract for building the Neka power station — signed with a German firm before the revolution and completed after the revolution — had a number of problems. Inconclusive negotiations have been held with the contractors for some time now.

The energy minister said that the Energy Ministry staff was trying to overcome the existing difficulties and eliminate the resultant shortages. One generator that had been taken out of the grid would be repaired and restored within the next few days.

About the absence of a timetable for a cut in power, Mr Ghafuri-Fard said that because the two sets of boilers at the Neka power station had encountered unexpected difficulties, the Energy Ministry had no plans to meet such contingencies. Efforts were being made to rectify this shortcoming as soon as possible. Compatriots were also requested to cut down on consumption in the next few days in particular to help ease matters.

Noting in conclusion that the current power output was 2 and 1/2 times that generated 8 years ago, he said that power output then amounted to only 2,800 mw, whereas now it was about 6,000 mw.

Official Details War-Damaged Reconstruction Work

LD111744 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Khorramabad, Lorestan Prov., Sept. 11, IRNA — A sum of rls. 220 b. (dls. 2.4 b.) has been spent on rebuilding and construction of 42 thousand housing and commercial units, damaged in Iraqi bombardments since the beginning of the imposed war till May 21 this year. These units have been handed over to their owners by the rehabilitation organization.

An official in charge of the rehabilitation affairs of the Ministry of Interior who is currently here expressed the hope that reconstruction of the war devastated regions would be accomplished as soon as possible.

Kurdish Insurgents Attack Iraqi Military Center

GF111027 Tehran Television Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries have launched an attack on the headquarters of the Iraqi armored forces in Irbil Province. The headquarters was destroyed and more than 30 Saddamist troops were killed. Reports indicate that during this operation, the Muslim revolutionaries set fire to a communications center, a tank and several other vehicles belonging to the Saddamist enemy. Following these successful attacks by the Iraqi Kurdish Muslims, the Saddamist forces shelled Kurdish villages north of Irbil. Two villagers were wounded.

Further Details

LD111523 Tehran IRNA in English 1506 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — A group of Iraqi Kurdish Muslim peshmerga attacked a command headquarters of Iraqi armoured forces in northern Irbil Province demolishing the command centre of the headquarters completely.

During the operations carried out last Wednesday, the Muslim peshmerga also smashed several group bunkers and tents in Gone-Gond heights overlooking Diyanah Plain killing more than 30 Iraqi troops including some officers and NCO's. The communications centre, one tank, one command jeep and several vehicles of the enemy were set ablaze and destroyed.

In the meantime, the Iraqi regime retaliated by shelling Kurdish dwelling villages in Goli-Rasht region of northern Irbil from air and land as a result of which two villagers were wounded.

Kurdish Villages Destroyed

LD111248 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., Sept. 11, IRNA — A large number of Iraqi Kurdish-dwelling villages, previously mentioned in maps of Iraq, do not exist anymore. The Islamic combatants of Iran, during the "Ghadir" offensive launched last Sunday and liberated areas in northwestern Haj 'Umran region, noticed several villages which had previously been levelled to the ground by the Iraqi regime. [Sentence as received]

IRNA correspondents who have visited the Sar-Sependar district in Iraqi Kurdestan, reported that in addition to the Shirvan-Mazin township, located near the Turkish border, at least four villages of Lolan, Navche-Payman, Deraw and Berkim were thoroughly annihilated several months ago. All the springs in this mountainous region were intentionally destroyed and there is no trace of life there. Shirvan-Mazin township is located north of the "Ghadir" operational theater and the villages in northwest of Haj 'Umran inside the "Ghadir" scene.

Kurd residents of the region told IRNA that the Iraqi regime has embarked on annihilating Kurdish-dwelling villages in border areas since years ago. They said that non-willingness of Iraqi Kurds to join Iraqi Army in its imposed war and also their strong opposition to the Ba'thist government in Iraq, further intensified Iraqi destruction of these villages. Local people said that Baghdad regime has so far failed in its attempt to transfer the residents of the demolished villages to special camps.

The "Ghadir" offensive was launched last Sunday in which 450 kms of land were liberated in the northwestern operational fronts and 50 Iraqi soldiers were captured.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,252

LD111711 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces announced Wednesday that the Islamic combatants zeroed in on enemy positions with artillery fire in the "Ghadir" operational theater as well as in the northwestern fronts of Marvian, Piranshahr and Sardasht during the past 24 hours.

In its Communique No. 2252 issued Wednesday, the Command further said that all enemy activities and movements were checked by Islamic combatants in other northern fronts. All Iraqi air aggressions in Piranshahr and Sardasht Regions were thwarted and considerable damage and casualties were inflicted upon the enemy troops.

In the western fronts, about 30 bunkers, several vehicles, guns and munitions depots were destroyed and more than 70 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded, said the communique. The patrol units of the enemy were forced to retreat around Qasr-e Shirin front during the said period.

The Islamic combatants repulsed enemy's patrol units in the southern fronts around Yabis inflicting casualties upon them by opening artillery and gunfire upon them. The engineering activities of the enemy were slowed down and several of their bunkers were smashed and some enemy soldiers were killed or wounded in the southern fronts as Gendarmerie forces opened fire upon enemy positions.

The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr were under sporadic fire of the enemy during the past 24 hours as a result of which several housing units were damaged in Abadan, concluded the communique.

Iraq Shells Abadan, Khorramshahr

GF111427 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] The heavy long-range artillery fire of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi enemy continued to rain on residential areas in the steadfast towns of Abadan and Khorramshahr during the past 24 hours. According to the Central News Unit correspondent, as a result of this shelling several areas of Abadan were damaged.

Foreign Reporters To View "Ghadir" Results

LD111355 Tehran IRNA in English 1336 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters Wednesday invited foreign reporters in Iran to visit areas liberated in "Ghadir" offensive last Sunday. The reporters are requested to refer to the foreign press department of the Ershad Eslami Ministry to arrange their visit.

The Islamic combatants of Iran launched a series of penetration offensives ended last Sunday with the liberation of over 450 sq. km of northwestern mountainous areas. [Sentence as received]

Radio Iran on Fires Burning on Khark

GF111501 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] Reports received from Tehran indicate that following the recent Iraqi bombardment of Khark Island, fires are still raging on the island and the regime has not yet brought them under control. According to the same report, a number of island residents died in the Iraqi bombardment. The people of Khark who live in a small village on the island, have since left Khark and taken refuge in the southern islands of the country.

The report adds that oil industry workers on Khark Island have also probably left the island, as they cannot continue their work on Khark under the present circumstances. Control rooms for loading of oil have huge bitumen walls, and were not damaged in the bombing. However, huge fires have made work in the area impossible. The huge oil storage bins at Khark are located in the center of this island. If these storage bins are destroyed in the

fire, the work of loading oil, which depends on these storage tanks, will stop.

The Islamic regime has become very unnerved at the fires raging on Khark Island and is holding secret talks with several foreign companies on rebuilding the island facilities.

Najat-e Iran Reports on Clashes in Kordestan

GF120655 (Clandestine) Radio Najat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] According to a report received this morning from Kordestan, the establishment of new government military bases in the Marivan area has disturbed the life of the people there, especially the farmers, and has prompted repeated complaints.

Meanwhile, in the village of Dadabid, as a result of a difference of opinion with the commander of the revolutionary guards unit, a young army officer, a Captain Vosuqfard, was shot dead by Khomeyni's Revolutionary Guards.

Najat-e Iran Reports on Clashes in Kermanshah

GF120703 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 85

[Text] The following is a report from Kermanshah [now called Bakhtaran]:

According to our correspondent, last Sunday clashes broke out when local residents protested against the war near the refugee camp of Qazanchi, near Kermanshah. As a result about 230 of the area's residents were wounded.

According to our correspondent, the Iraqi forces once again rocketed this border area and killed a number of our compatriots. The Khomeyni regime prevented the dissemination of this news and the war-weary residents of the area attacked the area's revolutionary committee with stones. 'Ali Mo'ini, head of the committee, fled from the scene.

According to the report, a group of the regime's armed elements, in an effort to disperse the protestors, staged bloody clashes lasting 12 hours.

Radio Iran: Syria Wants U.S. Hostages Released

GF101442 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] The Syrian president, after meeting with a number of Lebanese Hizballah members in Damascus, asked them to release their French and American hostages.

News agencies report from Damascus that the fate of seven Americans and four Frenchmen was at the top of the list of topics discussed between the leaders of the Hizballah and Hafiz As'ad.

The Syrian news agency has not reported this issue.

NVOI Claims U.S. Plans To Attack Iran

TA111440 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Station commentary: "America Is Planning To Strike at Iran"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: U.S. President Reagan has announced that according to international laws any government that is subjected to aggression has the right to self-defense. This is an undisputable fact. However, one should see which governments Reagan has in mind. Is Reagan sympathizing with Afghanistan and Nicaragua in whose lands thousands of counterrevolutionary bands equipped with U.S. arms and trained by U.S. advisers are commiting sabotage and murder? Perhaps Mr Reagan remembers Lebanon where the U.S. Navy shelled the people of that country. Or perhaps Mr Reagan wants to remind us of the rights of Grenada, which in 1983 was subjected to aggression and occupation by America, to self-defense.

It is abundantly clear that Reagan's objective is none of these. His aim is to divert public opinion from America's crimes. He calls Cuba, Nicaragua, and Libya criminals. He claims that these governments, and allegedly Iran as well, are committing aggression against the American nation and government. What U.S. leaders are talking about is the existence of a so-called confederation of terrorist governments that allegedly is operating against America. For this reason all of Washington's efforts are currently aimed at one thing only: the elimination of this aggression and the preparation of a decisive response against this so-called confederation of terrorists. The allocation of astronomical funds for the military and the unprecedented expansion of CIA activity account for this.

With regard to Washington's claim of the existence of a so-called confederation of terrorists, it should be stated that Washington's policy is to distort facts. It is the U.S. Government which is engaged in terrorism throughout the world. Proof of this claim is the recent meeting of U.S. officials with the counterrevolutionaries of Nicaragua, Afghanistan, [name indistinct], and Angola. Another testimony to this claim is the airlift engineered by the CIA for the transfer of its armed mercenaries from Europe to Central America, as well as the close cooperation of U.S. intelligence services with neo-Nazi and fascist organizations in various countries.

At one time Washington overthrew Mosaddeq's legal government by overt aggression. In 1965 America impudently committed aggression against the Dominican Republic and occupied it. In 1973 it implemented the same plot and aggression against Chile, and installed Pinochet in power. In 1961 under the pretext of defense against attack by revolutionary Cuba, America landed its counterrevolutionary band on the island of (?Cosmos). Later it committed aggression against Vietnam. However, it met with defeat everywhere. But in 1983 America was able to implement its aggressive plan in Grenada. Indications now are that in America's view Iran's turn has arrived.

The conservative and influential U.S. organization, the Heritage Foundation, has put forward an extensive plan for striking at Iran. In a report published by this organization and in a section on America's war against the terrorist foe, namely Iran, an

attempt is being made to put the responsibility for all the problems afflicting America in the Middle East on superstitious terrorists who allegedly have bases in Syria, Libya, and Iran. This conservative and influential U.S. organization calls on America, under the pretext of combating terrorism, to use military force to attack Iran's Navy, port installations, and industrial units.

Our homeland's people, while struggling to overthrow the bloody Islamic regime, will defend every inch of their homeland's soil against U.S. aggressions.